

ROOSEVELT BOOMERS AND COLONEL COUNT UP

Day and Evening Sessions in Town to Study the Situation and What to Do.

GLOOMY ONES BRIGHTEN UP

Beveridge, Hadley, Niedringhaus, Hale, Glasscock and Others Take Part in Powwows.

The Roosevelt campaign had a round-up in this city yesterday, the first since the ex-President's Columbus speech. The conferences were held at various places, at the Outlook office, at the home of Col. Roosevelt's cousin, Mrs. J. West Roosevelt, 110 East Thirty-first street, and at the Waldorf-Astoria, not forgetting the Roosevelt campaign headquarters, 1 Madison avenue. Col. Roosevelt met at these conferences Senator Joseph M. Dixon, head of the Roosevelt national committee; ex-Judge Charles H. Duell, chief of the Roosevelt city committee; ex-Senator Alfred J. Beveridge of Indiana, Gov. Hadley of Missouri, Thomas Niedringhaus of St. Louis, George W. Perkins, Henry L. Stoddard, Walter F. Brown of Toledo, head of the Roosevelt boomers in Ohio; Alexander Revell of the Chicago Roosevelt headquarters, Matthew Hale of Boston, Truman H. Newberry of New York, who was Roosevelt's Secretary of the Navy when the Colonel's term expired; William L. Ward, Gov. Glasscock of West Virginia and Frank A. Munsey.

The purpose of the gatherings, it was said, was first to ascertain the effect of the Colonel's speech concerning the recall of judicial decisions. It was learned that in the Eastern States particularly this utterance had brought a shock to many of the ex-President's supporters, but that they had recovered their equanimity and were now going on their way firm in their adherence to Roosevelt.

Another purpose was to provide for plans and ways and means for the future. Mr. Niedringhaus is a wealthy Republican, and has always been connected with Republican national politics. Mr. Niedringhaus yesterday called attention to the fact that Roosevelt in 1904 carried Missouri by 25,000, while Taft in 1908 carried the State by 625. With the advent of the Taft Administration in 1909 Mr. Niedringhaus was supplanted in his activities by Republicans on a closer footing with President Taft, including Richard C. Kerns, now Ambassador to Austria-Hungary.

Particular attention was paid at yesterday's conferences to the States which are to have preferential Presidential primaries and plans were formulated for the Roosevelt people to be active at these primaries. The States which have these primaries and the dates are: Wisconsin, April 2; Nebraska, April 17; Oregon, April 19; Massachusetts, April 30; New Jersey, May 28, and California, date not yet fixed. All of the conferences united in insisting that Roosevelt will carry all of these States.

Matthew Hale brought with him the copy of a despatch he had sent to United States Senator Crane, the nubbin of which was an inquiry of the Senator, as follows: "Do you approve the preferential primary and preference bill as passed this week by both branches of the Massachusetts Legislature?"

The fact that Massachusetts has joined the preference Presidential primary State list was a subject for congratulation on the part of Col. Roosevelt's followers. Due attention, it was stated, is to be given these primaries by Mr. Hale and the Roosevelt followers in the State. Then too it was said that there is every probability that a preference primary bill will be shortly enacted by the Legislature of Michigan.

Most of those who attended the conference had little to say for publication. Gov. Hadley of Missouri, who has been mentioned as a candidate for Vice-President on a ticket to be headed by Theodore Roosevelt, said that he could only speak for Missouri and outside of it he was not aware of the facts relative to the strength of Roosevelt or Taft. The Governor said that he was convinced that of the thirty-eight delegates from Missouri Roosevelt was sure of a majority. "We have not receded from the original figures of the vote we counted on for Col. Roosevelt," said Gov. Hadley, "nor have the number of Taft votes been increased over those we have always conceded. There is no diminution whatever in the Roosevelt strength. That will only decline when the Democratic and anti-Roosevelt ceases its fierce attacks on Roosevelt."

The Governor said that the Taft faction in Missouri had brought contests in two of the three Congress districts that have stamped their delegates for Roosevelt. These districts are the Third and Fifth. The Fourteenth is to hold its convention on Tuesday. Gov. Hadley added, and elect Roosevelt delegates, making six in all in the State for Roosevelt and none for Taft. Gov. Hadley said that in the Third Congress district seven of the ten counties were for Roosevelt and in the Fourteenth ten of the sixteen. A preferential primary held in the Fifth district, the Governor added, had returned 5,000 votes for Roosevelt against 357 for Taft.

The Governor said also that in the Fifth district thirty-five Taft men had locked themselves in a hotel sample room and proceeded to elect Taft delegates. This meeting, however, was routed by the Roosevelt men. In the Third district, Gov. Hadley still speaking, the Taft people had nailed the door of their meeting place, which had to be broken in by the Roosevelt forces.

Ex-Senator Beveridge did not care to speak of any features of the situation in Indiana. Mr. Beveridge only recently was overwhelmingly overthrown by the Taft people, who captured the Boomer State committee. William H. Hotchkiss, former Superintendent of Insurance in New York, had a talk with Col. Roosevelt concerning the workmen's compensation law that was presented to the Legislature yesterday.

Col. Roosevelt did not care to speak of the resolution against his ideas adopted by the Union League Club, of which he has been a member since his early political days and which was heartily for him as a candidate for Mayor and for Governor. Amos Pinchot, however, speaking of the club's attitude, said:

"It is lamentable that a club founded to uphold the hands of Abraham Lincoln should now come out on the side against which Lincoln would be fighting with all his strength if he were alive to-day."

Senator Dixon before joining the Roosevelt conference visited Roosevelt city headquarters and dictated a statement in which he said that four years from this

time nominations for President of both great parties will be through Presidential preference primaries. The Senator added:

"Do the Taft managers want to force an empty nomination at the Chicago convention at the point of the bayonet, an action which they know will be repudiated at the polls? The Taft managers, in their endeavor to mislead the public, are misleading themselves in that in their list of delegates they have deliberately claimed every delegate as an instructed Taft delegate whose instructions have not been positively for Col. Roosevelt. They also included in the list every contested district in the South. As a matter of cold fact, taking the entire list of Southern delegates so far named in Mississippi, South Carolina, Alabama and Virginia, it is my candid belief that to-day instead of the 100 delegates claimed by the Taft managers as instructed they had more than fifty-seven. For instance, in New Mexico of the eight delegates elected last week six of them are for Roosevelt first, last and all the time. When the Republican States of the Northwest get into action they will tell the real story of the Roosevelt and Taft strength, and when these States get through there will be no question as to the result."

When the Chicago convention meets in June, out of the 1,074 delegates there assembled at least half of them will be members of Congress, Senators and men in political life, whose political fortunes are absolutely dependent on the selection by the convention of a man who can win. These men are not going to deliberately commit political suicide by naming a candidate of the Republican party for President, a man they know cannot be elected. This fundamental fact in itself precludes any possibility of the nomination of Judge Taft by the Chicago convention.

After the final conference last night at Mr. Roosevelt's house Col. Roosevelt made this statement:

"This is a gathering of the clans. Senator Dixon wanted to consult me about any speeches I might make during the campaign. He also wanted to meet the leaders in the New York and Chicago headquarters. It is not to be a long speechmaking trip. We are here to talk over just where it is necessary to speak."

IOWA, FOR TAFT, JOLTS ROOSEVELT MANAGERS

Colonel's Leaders Mystified by Conduct of Progressive State.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—Roosevelt managers are mystified by the conduct of the State of Iowa. They had expected to secure virtually a solid delegation, which could be used either for Senator Cummins or Col. Roosevelt in the Chicago convention, but up to this time the drift has been in favor of President Taft.

Early in the fight it was apparent to the friends of Senator Cummins that Senator La Follette could not control Iowa as against Taft. Then it was that Senator Cummins became a candidate. Three weeks ago it became apparent that two and probably three of the districts would declare for President Taft, even against Senator Cummins, and by an agreement between the Cummins and the Roosevelt managers the districts were turned over to the Roosevelt people under the impression that Col. Roosevelt would be stronger than Mr. Taft. But this has not proved true.

The progressives now concede eight delegates from Iowa to the President and they claim only six for themselves, leaving four districts as fighting grounds in which both parties are making claims. Furthermore, the results to date indicate that President Taft will control the State convention and get the four delegates at large.

Up to March 12, according to mail advices received here to-day, 40 counties had selected delegates for the State convention, and of these the President had secured 415, Senator Cummins 182 and Roosevelt 24. On this showing President Taft had more than half enough delegates to control the State convention, which will consist of 1,481 delegates.

A telegram was received at Republican headquarters to-day from Dubuque, Ia., which shows there was an overwhelming majority for the President at the caucuses yesterday in the First Iowa district. The convention will be held March 20 and two Taft delegates will be elected.

At this time it looks as though Iowa would instruct a majority of her delegates elected by districts and her four delegates at large to vote for President Taft. This result would be particularly gratifying as an expression of opinion by the voters of the progressive Republican State of Iowa.

It is not certain that this result will be displeasing to Senator Cummins. Originally disposed to be a Roosevelt man, the Senator was disgusted by Col. Roosevelt's Columbus speech. He has consistently opposed the recall of Judges and is known to look with less favor still on the recall of judicial decisions as advocated by Col. Roosevelt. Senator Cummins's colleague, Senator Kenyon, would support President Taft unreservedly but for the fact that Senator Cummins is a candidate.

Roosevelt's managers looked scared when they footed up the total of their delegates elected to date.

"Why we have thirteen," said Medill McCormick, chief of staff.

"Thirteen," exclaimed Senator Dixon, "and it's Friday, too," he soliloquized. "But I never was superstitious."

The Roosevelt managers were almost in a panic over the reported action of the Governor in reconvening the eight Governors who issued the call to him to serve "the people" as the result of "an overwhelming popular demand."

The surprising thing about the Roosevelt movement is the daily evidence of a fat bankroll. The Dixon committee is employing writers at salaries higher than ever paid before for such work.

"Money is no consideration with us; name your salary," said one of the Roosevelt managers to the Washington correspondent of a well known newspaper who had declined to join the Roosevelt movement.

Among the encouraging messages received at Taft headquarters to-day was the information from Denver that the Republican city committee had decided for Taft, the vote being 421 to 1.

Representative Butler Ames of Massachusetts, who ran as a progressive Republican candidate for Senator against Senator Lodge, declared himself in favor of President Taft.

From Pueblo, Col., came information that the primaries there had declared for Taft by a vote of 2 to 1.

The Republican committee of the Seventh Congress district of Kentucky declared in favor of President Taft, with only one dissenting vote. Word also reached the President that he had a majority of the counties in the Fourteenth Missouri district, which meets March 19, and that two Taft delegates would be elected.

Up to tonight the President has received 127 instructed and pledged delegates, Roosevelt 13 and Cummins 2.

SAYS ROOSEVELT TOLD LA FOLLETTE HE'D LOSE

Go-Between Asserts Colonel Sent Word to Senator He Couldn't Win.

WHY HE ENTERED THE RACE

Gilson Gardner Declares Wisconsin Only Hoped to Head Off President Taft

WASHINGTON, March 15.—The Roosevelt committee turned to-night on Walter L. Houser, manager of Senator La Follette's campaign, and by calling as witnesses Gifford Pinchot and Gilson Gardner, a newspaper writer, they sought to put Mr. Houser in the Ananias Club. Gifford Pinchot wrote a letter to Col. Roosevelt and incorporated therein a letter from Gilson Gardner, in which Mr. Gardner denies the oft repeated statement by Houser that Col. Roosevelt "not only encouraged but was favorable to the candidacy of Senator La Follette until it came to appear that it might succeed." In his letter to Mr. Houser Gilson Gardner is quoted as saying:

In regard to the statement that Senator La Follette became a candidate because he believed in the recall of judges, this is shown to be untrue by the fact that Senator La Follette had determined to become a candidate and had announced that determination to his friends at least seven months before he was asked to do so. There are many people who know about these conferences who will furnish the full particulars.

My trip to Oyster Bay occurred May 1, 1911. As early as February, 1911, Senator La Follette had held consultations with his friends, myself among them, relative to his being taken to promote his nomination. There are many people who know about these conferences who will furnish the full particulars.

Col. Roosevelt sent word through me that he believed Senator La Follette could not win. He believed Taft's re-nomination would be forced by money and Federal patronage, and therefore Col. Roosevelt said he did not feel like urging La Follette to go into a losing fight. This was the message I delivered.

Col. Roosevelt did not promise that he would not himself become a candidate. He was very careful at that and at all times to keep himself free to make any promise or statement. I made this clear to Senator La Follette and the Senator to my knowledge knew at all times that Col. Roosevelt regarded himself as free to take any course that he might consider wise.

Mr. Gardner makes public the contents of a letter which he says he read to Senator La Follette to acquaint the Senator with Col. Roosevelt's position. This letter was written, he says, by Gardner in November, 1910, and the following extract is quoted as showing how Col. Roosevelt viewed the prospect of his becoming a candidate in 1912, following the defeat of Stimson for Governor in New York:

If I had won in New York I can see that I would have had to face the question of accepting the nomination in 1912, and it would have been a most painful and most doubtful question to decide. Not only that I shall not have to make such a decision and I can simply tell everybody that, as circumstances are, I feel it unwise and in direct out of the question for me to be a candidate.

Here in New York as well as in Massachusetts and Ohio every effort was made to get me to say that I would not be a candidate and some effort was made to get me to say that I would support Taft in 1912.

I utterly refused to make either assertion. I told my questioners that I did not think there was one chance in a hundred that I would be necessary for me to become a candidate and that the one thing I most desired was not to be put in a position where I would have to become one, but that I would treat the question not in the least from the standpoint of Taft's interests, still less in my own interest, but solely from the standpoint of the public good, and that therefore I thought it in the highest degree improbable that it would be necessary for me to accept the nomination, yet I should not commit myself so that I could not act in any way that the public need really demand.

Now I am convinced that, unless conditions arise which we cannot possibly foresee and of which there are at present no indications, it will not merely be improbable, but impossible for anything to happen which will make it necessary for me to accept the nomination; and in fact I think now that the question will not arise at all.

In concluding his letter Gilson Gardner has the following to say of Senator La Follette:

It was understood by all of Senator La Follette's friends that he became a candidate without serious hopes of being nominated and for the purpose of consolidating the progressive movement and making difficult or impossible the re-nomination of a reactionary President. This purpose he carried out. Senator La Follette's leadership was successful to a certain point, but as anticipated, he was called on to make a sacrifice.

He has paid the penalty in shattered nerves and the time has come for a strong man to take his place. In normal health Senator La Follette would not, I am convinced, countenance a charge that Col. Roosevelt had ever treated him in a way not fair. In his present inability to direct any more what is going on in the campaign for his friends to do what he would certainly disapprove.

TAFT GETS NORTH CAROLINA

Factions Agree to Bury Hatchet at White House Conference.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—The North Carolina political row, which has been raging for months, was virtually settled to-day at a conference at the White House at which Postmaster-General Hitchcock, Charles D. Hiles, secretary to the President; Representative McKinley of Illinois, who is in charge of the Taft headquarters; John M. Morehead, State chairman, and E. C. Duncan, national committeeman, were present. After discussing the situation for several hours the factions, headed by Morehead and Duncan respectively, agreed to bury the hatchet and support the President.

This action means that President Taft will obtain at least two-thirds of the twenty-four delegates from North Carolina to the national convention. An agreement upon patronage will be reached between the factions for submission to the President.

Several weeks ago President Taft withdrew from the contest the nomination of ten Federal officers because of the fight between the two factions. Mr. Taft will re-nominate these officers as soon as they agree upon the new slate.

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ROOSEVELT DELEGATES BOLT.

Quit Indiana Convention When They Find Themselves Outnumbered.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., March 15.—Though District Committee on Saturday offered to give the Roosevelt supporters every delegate that they claimed in the preliminary organization of the District convention to-day if they would withdraw their contests, the offer was rejected.

They were then told if they held orders to bolt, and were determined to destroy the party in the district, the convention would have to be organized over their protests.

The fight was thus taken to the floor of the convention and the Taft men organized it and appointed the committee. This was the signal for the expected bolt and the Roosevelt delegates left the hall and will send two outstanding delegates to Chicago.

Conceding all the Roosevelt leaders claimed, Taft had 63 1/2 delegates and Roosevelt 31 1/2 in the district. Taft got 48 delegates and Roosevelt 11 delegates outside of this (Standerburg) county.

After the Roosevelt delegates left the hall, the convention unanimously selected former United States Senator Hemmway and Charles H. Heilman, Mayor of this city, as the district delegates to the Chicago convention.

Up to 5 o'clock, when the Roosevelt men bolted the convention, the meeting was in a constant wrangle and it was with difficulty that encounters were prevented by the police.

The Roosevelt faction met to-night and selected Charles Finley Smith of Evansville and W. F. Adam of Rockport as contesting delegates to the Chicago convention.

TAFT'S BUSY DAY IN BOSTON.

Will Be on the Go From 7 A. M. Till 10:30 P. M.

BOSTON, March 15.—The programme that President Taft will follow on his visit to Boston next Monday has been prepared at the White House and transmitted to Mayor Fitzgerald. The programme follows:

7 A. M.—Arrive at Boston and met by Mayor Fitzgerald and Samuel J. Elder and escorted to the Boston City Club for short rest.

9:30 A. M.—Hotel Somerset. Attend formal breakfast tendered by the Mayor and city officials.

1 P. M.—State House. Address General Court of Massachusetts.

2 P. M.—Informal luncheon of the Pilgrim Publicity Association at the Georgian Hotel.

3 P. M.—Review South Boston parade.

4 P. M.—Informal luncheon of the Pilgrim Publicity Association at the Georgian Hotel.

6 P. M.—Hotel Somerset. Attend dinner of the Charitable Irish Society.

9 P. M.—Symphony Hall. Drop in on the Boston Bank Officers' Association.

10 P. M.—Hotel Vendome. Drop in on the Boston Paper Manufacturers' Association.

10:30 P. M.—Algonquin Club. Drop in on the dinner of the Yale Club of Boston.

Spend the night at the Hotel Somerset.

HAS MUNSEY GIVEN UP?

Said to Have Written That Roosevelt Got Into the Race Too Late.

CONCORD, N. H., March 15.—Alderman Fred L. Blackwood of this city has received a private letter from Frank A. Munsey, the publisher, in which the great Roosevelt boomer says that in his opinion the Colonel entered the race too late and that President Taft has clinched the nomination.

On February 5 Blackwood wrote to Munsey for personal information regarding the Colonel's candidacy, and on March 9 received the letter referred to above, which he does not wish to make public.

It is thought by many that Munsey's letter is a practical admission that the Roosevelt cause is lost.

Inasmuch as all of the Munsey publications are booming Roosevelt, many local progressives refused to believe that Munsey had conceded the least weakness in his candidate's campaign. A glimpse of the epistle is said to have settled the doubts of those who wanted "to be shown."

WAR ON ROOSEVELT TICKET:

Queens Regulars Try to Bar Insurgents in First District Primaries.

The organization Republicans of Queens got from Justice Van Sien in Brooklyn yesterday an order to show cause why the Bureau of Elections should not reject the Roosevelt ticket for the forthcoming primaries in the First Assembly district. The order was issued after John A. Porter of 384 first avenue, Long Island City, whose name is on the organization ticket, had made affidavit that the Roosevelt ticket is in violation of the law because only twenty-five candidates for members of the county committee are named on that ticket instead of twenty-seven, or one for each election district, as provided by law.

The order is returnable on Tuesday of next week.

Pushing Taft's Campaign in Ohio. COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 15.—L. C. Laylin, Taft manager in Ohio, to-day called a meeting of chairman of county Republican committees for Columbus on Tuesday, in the interest of Taft's re-nomination. Senator Burton, who is coming to Columbus to address the constitutional convention, will address the committee-men.

The order is returnable on Tuesday of next week.

ROOSEVELT BALLOT FIGHT TURNED DOWN

Appellate Division by Three to Two Refuses to Order Any Change.

BALLOT MAKEUP STANDS

Justice Laughlin Says That It Is an "Attempt to Thwart the Will of the People."

By a vote of three to two in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court yesterday the Roosevelt committee lost its legal fight to compel the Board of Elections to print the names of the delegates to the Presidential convention at the head of the primary ballot. Justice Laughlin gave a spirited dissenting opinion in which he said that the action of the Board of Elections in arranging the Presidential delegates fifth on the ballot, counting nine groups of candidates, "was a plain, deliberate violation of the statute and an attempt to thwart the will of the people."

The Roosevelt committee will move to have the case taken to the Court of Appeals, but the time in which to print the ballots is now so short that Manager Valentine of the M. B. Brown Company, who was in court awaiting the decision, got telephonic authorization from the Board of Elections and started the printing of the ballots at once.

The court gave the decision from the bench. Presiding Justice Ingraham in the majority opinion said:

"There is no direction in the election law as to the order in which names of candidates for delegates shall be placed on the ballot." Justice Ingraham therefore concluded that the court has no power to review the action of the Board of Elections. Justices Miller and McLaughlin concurred.

In his dissenting opinion Justice Laughlin said:

"The Board of Elections, instead of recognizing and following the provision of the law with respect to the purpose of the spring primary, appears to have planned deliberately to make it as difficult as possible for the electors to appear at the primary and discover upon the ballot the names of the delegates who are candidates for election to the national convention. They have followed no rule in preparing this ballot. They have preceded the names of the delegates to the national convention by candidates for members of other party organizations, and they have followed them by candidates for members of other committees. They have not afforded the people an opportunity to discover the names of the delegates to the national convention either at the head or the foot of the ballot."

Justice Laughlin said that he believed that on the primary ballot the Presidential delegates should not be subordinate to the delegates to the State convention.

Justice Dowling also dissented on the ground that the arrangement of candidates on the primary ballot should be in logical order, with the candidates for delegates to the State convention first, to the national convention second and the members of the party committees last. Under his ruling the Presidential delegates would appear second on the ballot.

The order of the candidates on the primary ballot as prepared by the Board of Elections and altered somewhat by decisions of the court will be: Delegates and alternates to State convention, members of State committee, county committee, Congressional committee; delegates and alternates to national convention, executive committee, borough committee, Aldermanic committee and municipal Court district committee. The Board of Elections has put the Congress committee delegates at the head of the ballot, but the court ruled that the State convention delegates must head the ballot.

In an affidavit in support of the Roosevelt committee's contention that the Presidential delegates should head the ballot Chairman Duell of the committee said that had the legislature passed the primary law originally introduced there would have been no candidates to be voted on at the spring election except delegates and alternates to the Presidential convention, and that is what Col. Roosevelt favored. This would have meant a short ballot, he said.

The contention of the Board of Elections, which has been sustained by the lower court, is that the primary law gives the board discretion in the arrangement of the candidates and that so long as this discretion is not abused by some illegal act the arrangement made by the board is controlling.

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